

2014 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PARKS & RECREATION-101

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AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The New York City Department of Parks and Recreation manages 14 percent of the land in New York City. These assets range from playgrounds and large parks, to tranquil wooded areas and over 14 miles of beaches. Parks serve as New Yorkers' backyards, as vital meeting areas for outdoor play and recreation – but also as critical engines for economic growth and development.

The past decade has seen a remarkable expansion of this system, with new parks, playgrounds, recreational facilities, and amenities opening across the five boroughs. The Bronx River was transformed from an urban dumping ground into a waterway that welcomes kayakers and has gleaming new parks dotting its shoreline. In Queens, Elmhurst Park flourishes where huge gas tanks once stood. In Manhattan, the High Line is a unique open space that brings much needed parkland to the Chelsea community. Brooklyn's once-abandoned industrial waterfront is revitalized with the creation of Brooklyn Bridge Park, Transmitter, and Bushwick Inlet Parks. On Staten Island, Freshkills will cover 2,200 acres of former landfill with lush rolling hills and winding streams. And through PlaNYC, we are ensuring a greener and more sustainable city for future generations. NYC Parks has built new regional parks, restored abandoned Works Progress Administration-era facilities such as McCarren Pool, greened asphalt traffic medians, converted part-time schoolyards into full-time public playgrounds, and has already planted more than 800,000 trees toward our goal of one million.

The work of the agency goes far beyond the maintenance of 14% of New York City's land. Parks is the City's leading programmer of cultural, athletic and social activities, including nature walks, concerts, learn-to-swim classes, sports clinics, historic house tours, and much more. Each year Parks hosts annual events such as WinterJam, Adventures NYC, and the Pumpkin Festival. In addition, Parks produces many special events, concerts and movie premieres, as well as providing free rental equipment for skating, baseball, and miniature golf.

The Parks Commissioner is appointed by the Mayor to oversee and direct the work of the agency. The Commissioner appoints Deputy Commissioners, Borough Commissioners, and Assistant Commissioners who are responsible for managing the agency's divisions. These senior officials supervise the work of thousands of Parks employees. They work with elected officials to complete capital improvements for parks, playgrounds, and recreation centers. They work with the private sector to sponsor free public events. They get the community involved in Parks through volunteer initiatives and educational and athletic programming in recreation and nature centers. They prepare Parks' budget and monitor the work of Parks' ice-skating rinks, golf courses and other concessions.

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Our mission is to enable all New Yorkers to lead physically active lives through sports, fitness, and outdoor adventure.

Parks offers a wide array of recreation programs for children, teens, adults, seniors and families from Afterschool, Summer Camp and cultural events to sports leagues, aquatics program and group fitness classes. There are 35 Parks recreation centers and hundreds of events and programs that NYC Parks' Recreation Division hosts annually throughout Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan, Staten Island and the Bronx.

POSITION TITLE

Recreation Sustainability Programming and Green Initiatives Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

The Intern would assist in developing sustainable programs for members, operational management of our centers and furthering energy-saving initiatives within the Recreation Division. This would include the following:

- Planning, implementing, tracking and evaluating educational activities relating to sustainability such as contests and afterschool activities, existing outdoor adventure programs, environmental activities, environmental events and Green Teens Initiatives.
- Introduce, reinforce and help manage Parks Department sustainable initiatives. Initiate and advocate for facility improvements in coordination with Parks staff, helping NYC Parks achieve its goals of energy and waste reductions.
- Conducting energy audits and site inspections in cooperation with the agency's energy management team
- Collecting and organizing information about the physical infrastructure of NYC Parks buildings within Recreation with regard to efficiency and sustainability. Helping to track mechanical, electrical, and structural issues.
- Assist in maintaining a list of all Recreation Capital Projects and Recreation projects managed by Citywide Operations, the Capital Division, Maintenance and Operations with the help of these agency divisions

nyc.gov/internships

QUALIFICATIONS / SPECIAL SKILLS / AREAS OF STUDY

Applicants must be working towards a degree in Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Environmental Management, Environmental Education, Conservation, Facilities Management, Resource Management, Human Geography or a related field.

Applicants for this position must demonstrate good oral communication skills, good organizational and outreach skills, strong writing skills, and have good working knowledge of Microsoft Windows, Excel, and PowerPoint. They must have the ability to work independently and as part of a team.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Please email cover letter and resume to Leslie.Nusblatt@parks.nyc.gov

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

This is an unpaid, full-time (35 hours per week) internship.

Multiple positions available throughout Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, Manhattan and the Bronx.

SALARY RANGE

Unpaid